

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The examiner has objected to the specification in item 9 on page 3 of the office action on the grounds that the deletion of the amino acid sequence "L P X T G" broadens the scope of the sentence by replacing the sequence with a much broader limitation: "5 amino acid" motif. The examiner acknowledges that the sentence which describes the "5 amino acid motif" indicates that the motif involved in cell wall anchoring is indicated in bold characters in figures 6A-6E. However, the examiner urges that figure 6 does not discernibly highlight or show in "bold characters" a 5 amino acid motif. Applicant has reviewed the relevant figure (i.e., figure 6D) and it is clear that figure 6D does indeed indicate the 5 amino acid sequence by bold letters. However, applicant has nonetheless amended figure 6D by making the bold letters bolder to more discernibly highlight the 5 amino acid sequence in question. In this regard it is to be noted that the examiner indicates in the office action that this objection may be overcome by highlighting the specific 5 amino acid sequence in such notable way that one can differentiate the bold characters from the rest of the non-bold characters in the figure.

In view of the above amendment to figure 6D, it is clear that applicant has overcome this objection.

In item 10 on pages 3-4 of the office action the examiner has required applicant to cancel the aforementioned new matter from the specification. The examiner urges that the new matter arises due to the amended sentence which includes the broader generic limitation "5 amino acid" motif. In this regard the examiner notes that there is no descriptive support for the current broader limitation "5 amino acid" motif. Applicant submits that the "5 amino acid" motif referred to by the examiner is not any broader than the original specification in

view of the bold characters “**L P D T G**” in amended figure 6D and applicant’s clear reference to the fact that the “5 amino acid” motif refers to these specific 5 amino acids. In this regard it is to be noted that the paragraph referred to by the examiner presently states “ . . . and a C-terminal 5 amino acid motif (indicated in bold characters) . . .”. In addition the precise location of the 5 amino acid sequence has been added to this same sentence.

In view of the above, it is clear that the application no longer includes any new matter.

The examiner notes in item 6 on page 2 of the office action that the objection to the drawings made in paragraph 2 of the office action dated May 9, 2000, is withdrawn in light of the formal drawings submitted on July 9, 2003. However, the examiner also notes in item 11 on page 1 of the office action that the proposed drawing correction filed on July 9, 2003, is disapproved by the examiner. The examiner does not give any reasons as to why the proposed drawing correction has been disapproved. Presumably the only objection to the drawings is the alleged lack of bold characters as discussed above. This has been corrected.

All of the non-elected claims have been cancelled except for claim 27. Claim 27 has been amended as suggested by the examiner on the top of page 5 of the office action. The examiner indicates on the top of page 5 of the office action that claim 27 will be rejoined with the allowable claims if claim 27 is amended as suggested by the examiner. Since claim 27 has been amended in accordance with the examiner’s suggestion, it is clear that claim 27 should now be rejoined with the allowed claims.

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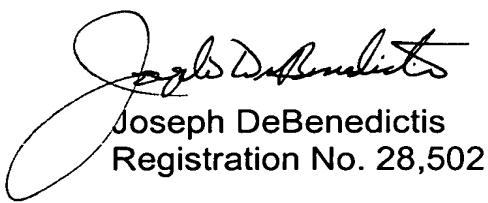
In view of the above arguments and further amendment to the specification and drawings and the examiner's indication of allowance subject matter, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all the claims which are currently pending in the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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